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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER				
GLASS, RUSSELL S				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/993,663

Applicant(s)

SASAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Russell S. GLASS

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Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/30/2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-8, 10-14, 100, 101 and 103 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-8, 10-14, 100, 101 and 103 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-144a or PTO-609a)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Intervenor Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's amendment filed 11/30/2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-10, 11, 13, 14, 100, 103 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bayne, (U.S. 2005/0060198).**

4. As per claim 8, Bayne discloses a health management method of managing health of each user carrying a portable terminal, including the steps of:

providing a portable terminal carried by a user with a display screen, radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio communication network, storage means storing personal information of the user, and an input/output device for supporting health management for the user, (Bayne, Abstract; ¶ 36, 39-41); and

an emergency notification switch for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode, (Bayne, ¶ 32, 78).

providing a database for communicating with each portable terminal with personal information storage means storing the personal information about each user carrying the portable terminal, medical information storage means storing information about a medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine, and the input/output device, and communication means for communicating with the portable terminal through the radio communication network, (Bayne, Abstract; ¶ 36, 45-47, 96);

transmitting part of the personal information stored in the storage means by the radio communication means when starting to communicate with the database, (Bayne, Abstract; ¶ 36, 45);

identifying using the database, the user of the portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from the radio communication means with information stored in the personal information storage means, (Bayne, Abstract; ¶ 36, 45); and

activating an emergency handling means which provides either communication with a medical facility whose information is stored in the medical information storage means or information stored in the medical information storage means, which is necessary for the identified user for the portable terminal, to said portable terminal when said portable terminal enters the emergency notification mode, (Bayne, ¶ 32, 50, 78), and

wherein the personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the user and prescription, (Bayne ¶ 93).

5. As per claim 10, Bayne discloses a method wherein the radio communication means and the communication means perform encryption/decryption in accordance with a predetermined scheme in transmitting/receiving at least part of the personal information, (Bayne, ¶ 45).

6. As per claim 11, Bayne discloses a method wherein the portable terminal acquires position information of the terminal, and information about a route to a suitable medical facility or drugstore is displayed on the display screen on the basis of the position information, (Bayne, ¶ 39, 40, 50).

7. As per claim 13, Bayne discloses a method wherein in the database, when no information is transmitted a predetermined period of time after a specific signal is transmitted from the radio communication means, communication is made to an emergency facility, (Bayne, ¶ 77-84) (disclosing automatic emergency call initiation).

8. As per claim 14, Bayne discloses a method wherein part of the information includes information about biometrical characteristics of the user, (Bayne ¶ 93).

9. As per claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7 these system claims contain the same or similar limitations as the corresponding method claims 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, respectively, and

claims 1-4, 6, 7 are therefore rejected by incorporating the rejections of claims 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 herein by reference.

10. As per claim 100, Bayne discloses an information provision method for providing medical information about health, a medical treatment or a medicine from a database, comprising steps of:

receiving, from a portable terminal through a network, user information stored in the portable terminal and an emergency notification for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode, (Bayne, ¶¶ 32, 50, 78);

wherein the personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the user and prescription, (Bayne ¶¶ 93).

identifying a user of the portable terminal by collating the user information transmitted from the portable terminal with personal information stored in the database (Bayne, ¶¶ 32, 50, 78); and

providing either communication with a medical facility or the medical information stored in the database to the portable terminal of the identified user in the emergency notification mode, (Bayne, ¶¶ 32, 50, 78).

11. As per claim 103, Bayne discloses an information provision method wherein the medical information is route information about a suitable medical facility or drugstore for the identified user, (Bayne, ¶¶ 39, 40, 50).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayne, (U.S. 2005/0060198), in view of Mishevich et al., (U.S. 5,363,842).

13. As per claim 12, Bayne discloses a health management method of managing health of each user carrying a portable terminal, including the steps of:

providing a portable terminal carried by a user with a display screen, radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio communication network, storage means storing personal information of the user, and an input/output device for supporting health management for the user, (Bayne, Abstract; ¶ 36, 39-41); and

an emergency notification switch for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode, (Bayne, ¶ 32, 78).

providing a database for communicating with each portable terminal with personal information storage means storing the personal information about each user carrying the portable terminal, medical information storage means storing information about a medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine, and the input/output device, and

communication means for communicating with the portable terminal through the radio communication network, (Bayne, Abstract; ¶ 36, 45-47, 96);

transmitting part of the personal information stored in the storage means by the radio communication means when starting to communicate with the database, (Bayne, Abstract; ¶ 36, 45);

identifying using the database, the user of the portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from the radio communication means with information stored in the personal information storage means, (Bayne, Abstract; ¶ 36, 45); and

activating an emergency handling means which provides either communication with a medical facility whose information is stored in the medical information storage means or information stored in the medical information storage means, which is necessary for the identified user for the portable terminal, to said portable terminal when said portable terminal enters the emergency notification mode, (Bayne, ¶ 32, 50, 78).

Bayne fails to disclose a method wherein the input/output device is an inhaler for discharging a medicine in the form of fine droplets to make the user inhale the droplets, and the information about the input/output device includes information about handling of the inhaler. However, such a method is well known in the art as evidenced by Mishelevich, (Mishelevich, Abstract, col. 4, line 35 - col. 5, line 18).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Bayne and Mishelevich. The motivation would have been to create a hand-held inhaler device to provide information to both patient and healthcare

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professional regarding correct usage, actuation, flow rate, and duration, (Mishelevich, col. 4, lines 16-32).

14. As per claim 5, the system claims contain the same or similar limitations as the corresponding method claims 12. Claim 5 is therefore rejected by incorporating the rejection of claim 12 herein by reference.

15. Claim 101 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayne, (U.S. 2005/0060198), in view of Mishelevich et al., (U.S. 5,363,842), and further in view of Voges, (U.S. 5,894,841).

16. As per claim 101, the collective system of Bayne and Mishelevich fails to disclose a method wherein said portable terminal includes an inhaler which discharges a medicine on the basis of an ink-jet scheme using heat, (Voges, Abstract; col. 4, lines 34-67, col. 5, lines 20-25).

The statement of obviousness and motivation to combine the portable terminal of Bayne and the inhaler of Mishelevich is as provided in the rejection of claim 12 and incorporated herein by reference.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add the ink-jet system of Voges to the collective system of Bayne and Mishelevich. The motivation would have been to provide precise dose control, (Voges, col. 2, lines 7-9).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6/8/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. As per applicant's argument that Bayne fails to disclose a storing means storing personal information of the user and an emergency notification switch for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode in the same device, it is submitted that Bayne discloses this feature, (Bayne, fig. 1 showing clinician device 140 containing medical records 160 that would include clinical charts and prescriptions, ¶¶ 32, 40, 78). Furthermore, the clinician device in Bayne is a portable wireless interface for the purpose of remote diagnosis and treatment, and it has the emergency notification capability to talk to the emergency facility discussed in paragraph 32. This is not disclosing two remote computers, but rather a remote computer communication with a central location. All claim elements are met by the remote clinician device.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RUSSELL S. GLASS whose telephone number is (571)272-3132. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on 571-272-6776. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/RSG/

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Examiner, Art Unit 3626

2/17/2008

/C. Luke Gilligan/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3626